(a) to (c) Planning Commission constituted a Special Group on Targeting ten million Employment Opportunities Per Year over the Tenth Plan Period under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member (Labour, Employment & Manpower), Planning Commission to suggest strategies and programmes in the Tenth Plan for creating employment opportunities for 10 million people a year. The Special Group has identified the labour intensive sectors, which should be developed to create 10 million employment opportunities per year in the Tenth Plan. These sectors include agriculture, watershed development, on farm water management, small and medium industries, information technology, education and health services.

(d) Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) is scheduled to be placed for approval by National Development Council on December 21, 2002.

(e) Criteria for selection of a candidate for a job is determined by the appointing organization.

Catchy slogan for Tenth Five Year Plan

2315. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission is in search of a catchy slogan for the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the public response has been invited for the purpose and if so, the success achieved in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) No formal search has been launched by the Planning Commission for a catchy slogan for the Tenth Plan.

Financial Package for backward districts

†2316. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided any financial package for economically backward districts;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.